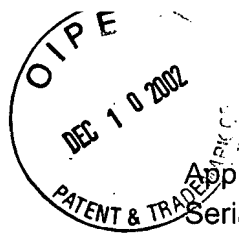


#20/C



In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicants:	A. L. Fletcher et al.	Docket	11712
Serial No.:	09/444,083	Group:	3761
Filed:	11/22/99	Examiner:	J. Stephens
For:	Absorbent Articles With Refastenable Side Seams	Date:	December 5, 2002

Amendment

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Washington, D.C. 20231

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed August 5, 2002 (Paper No. 17). This Amendment is timely because it is accompanied by a petition for a one-month extension of time.

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims

Please **cancel** claim 21.

Please **amend** claims 22 and 23 as follows:

Sub 22. (Once Amended) ~~The absorbent article of claim 21,~~ An absorbent article, comprising:

an absorbent chassis defining a longitudinal axis, a transverse axis, first and second waist edges parallel to the transverse axis, opposite side edges extending between the first and second waist edges, a first waist region contiguous with the first waist edge, a second waist region contiguous with the second waist edge, and a crotch region which extends between and interconnects the first and second waist regions, the absorbent chassis comprising:

a rectangular composite structure having opposite linear side edges parallel to the longitudinal axis and opposite linear end edges parallel to the transverse axis, the composite structure comprising a bodyside liner, an outer cover bonded to the bodyside liner, and an absorbent assembly disposed between the bodyside liner and the outer cover;